

PRESS RELEASE

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HOUSTON PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT'S WOODLAND PARK NATURE PRESERVE SELECTED FOR THE 2023 NIAGARA 'PERK YOUR PARK' CAMPAIGN

Houstonians can nominate Woodland Park to be awarded the \$75,000 grant for park renovations.

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department's (HPARD) Woodland Park Nature Preserve has been selected as one of nine projects in the 2023 Niagara Perk Your Park Grant Campaign from Niagara Bottling, through its charitable program, Niagara Cares, and in partnership with the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). Woodland Park is located at 212 Parkview Street, Houston, TX, 77009. The 14.6-acre Nature Preserve contains Little White Oak Bayou and its adjacent forested riparian habitat.

The Perk Your Park Campaign is part of the Niagara Perk Your Park Project, an initiative that focuses on park and community space revitalization across the country. The Perk Your Park Campaign encourages public engagement with these new spaces, asking the public to support a park project that should be selected to receive a grant. HPARD's Woodland Park Nature Preserve project would restore degraded habitat in the park that would enhance one of the City of Houston's newly designated Nature Preserves. The project's scope includes the removal of invasive species, the planting of new trees and understory vegetation, the addition of interpretive signage along the park's trail to educate visitors on the importance of the habitat at the site and the impact natural areas have on flood mitigation, water quality, erosion control, and native wildlife.

"The Woodland Park Nature Preserve project will help the Houston Parks and Recreation Department's ongoing effort to build a healthier forested ecosystem in the city," said Kenneth Allen, Director, Houston Parks and Recreation Department. "It will connect the community to the area, as well as support environmental education efforts for the department, along with improving our natural habitat. We encourage everyone to go online and show their support for our transformative project."

The campaign began August 7, 2023, at www.NiagaraPerkYourPark.com. Houstonians can nominate the Woodland Park Nature Preserve project once per day, through September 18, 2023. A total of three park projects will be granted \$75,000 each toward park renovations.

About the Houston Parks and Recreation Department

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department (H.P.A.R.D.) stewards and manages 382 parks and over 39,501 acres of parkland and greenspace for the City of Houston and develops and implements recreational programming for citizens of all ages and abilities. For more information on the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, call (832) 395-7022 or visit www.houstonparks.org.

Niagara Bottling, LLC has been family owned and operated since 1963. Headquartered in Diamond Bar, California, Niagara operates bottling facilities throughout the U.S. and Mexico. As a leading beverage manufacturer in the U.S., Niagara Bottling works closely with some of the largest beverage brands, retailers, grocers, and club and convenience stores throughout the country. Niagara produces a variety of beverages including bottled water, sparkling, vitamin and flavored water, teas, sports drinks, ready-to-drink coffee, protein drinks, and non-dairy milk products. For more information, visit www.niagarawater.com.

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) is the leading not-for-profit organization dedicated to building strong, vibrant and resilient communities through the power of parks and recreation. With more than 60,000 members, NRPA advances this vision by investing in and championing the work of park and recreation professionals and advocates – the catalysts for positive change in service of equity, climate-readiness, and overall health and well-being. For more information, visit www.nrpa.org. For digital access to NRPA's flagship publication, Parks & Recreation, visit www.nrpa.org.

Niagara Cares is the philanthropic arm of Niagara Bottling, LLC, and is the heart of what we do and who we are. We believe in supporting the communities where we live and work through a spirit of giving back in ways both big and small. Making a meaningful difference for our Team Members, consumers and communities through volunteering, product donations, disaster relief and other actions has been our priority for over 60 years. For more information, visit www.niagarawater.com/niagara-cares.